## RECEIVED

JAN 2 7 2004



TECH CENTER 1600/2900

TEL: 724-327-0664 FAX: 724-327-0004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner:

Mitra, Rita

Docket: FJ 122

Applicant(s):

Marina Vrlijc et al.

Serial No.:

09/105,117

In Response to Paper No: 50

Filing Date:

17/06/98

Art Unit: 1653

Title:

PROCESS FOR THE MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF AMINO

ACIDS BY BOOSTED ACTIVITY OF EXPORT CARRIERS

.....

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 January 17, 2004

SIR:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of 12/03/03 please amend the above-identified application as indicated below under "Amendment to the Claims":